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**PATENT APPLICATION**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re the Application of:

Confirmation No.: 5975

YAMAMOTO

Art Unit: 2615

Serial No.: 09/537,669

Examiner: Y. Aggarwal

Filed: March 29, 2000

Docket No.: 107317-00003

For: IMAGE PROCESSING APPARATUS AND METHOD

**RECEIVED**

MAR 30 2004

**AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111**

Technology Center 2600

**Introductory Comments**

Director of the U.S. PTO  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

March 26, 2004

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated December 5, 2003, the period for response being extended from March 5, 2004 until April 5, 2004 by the attached Petition for Extension of Time, please amend the above-identified application as set forth below.